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Favorite MAC tech tip: Microsoft Snipping Tool

Are you tired of cropping and resizing screen shots when you find just the right picture or chart online or in desktop applications? Do you need to illustrate a process or grab a quick image from a webinar?

Instead of reaching for the Print Screen button, click on your start button, and type Snipping Tool into the search box. A scissor tool will come up which allows you to draw a box around and "snip" a picture of almost anything on your monitor. You can draw and highlight text on the resulting image, then save, email, or copy and paste to your favorite application!

PUBLIC VALUE PARTNERSHIPS

The Three Rs at work in Montana

Public Value Partnership grants between Montana nonprofit arts organizations and the Montana Arts Council champion the fact that the arts are of benefit to all the citizens of Montana and are worthy of state and federal investment.

Public Value Partnerships utilize three tools we call "The Three Rs" to expand the public value of the work being done by Montana's non-profit arts organizations:

- Building relationships;
- Creating greater relevance and meaning; and
- Establishing return on investment (measured both as economic vitality and impact on people's lives).

MAC believes that using "The Three Rs" strengthens participation, understanding and support from audiences, donors and funders. We'd like to share some of the best examples of these stories with you from 2013:

Building Relationships

Hockaday Museum of Art, Kalispell:

The Hockaday Museum of Art has a long history of working with the community. In FY12 and 13, we worked in collaboration with our community partners in the Kalispell Downtown Association (KDA) and downtown business owners. The museum director is on the board of the KDA and uses the relationship to ensure the museum's participation in community-based events.

The museum hosted the final stop for the Run Through History where participants ran through downtown Kalispell. One of our partners was National Flood, which sponsored the event and hosted the barbeque that followed immediately afterward.

This kind of interaction provides the museum with a grassroots perspective of how local organizations work for the greater good of the community.

The museum also works with the Center of Restorative Justice, which is located a short distance away, to include at-risk youth in our activities. These youth have discovered how accessible and interesting their local art museum is. We have tapped their energy and enthusiasm to clean and paint the galleries, uncrate exhibits, set up for events, and remove graffiti from exterior walls. Many have volunteered to set-up and tear down at public exhibit receptions.



Hockaday Museum of Art: Treg Miller teaches students how to transform 2-D acrylic paintings into 3-D pieces of art during a class on pop art.

For the museum, this collaboration is an opportunity to build personal relationships with bright young people who need someone to give them a second chance.

Creating Relevance

CoMotion Dance, Missoula: This year our performance outreach featured five dancers, a stage manager and a videographer who traveled to the schools to perform "Fire Speaks the Land" – a 50-minute performance piece designed for K-8 school children. The performance is highly relevant to students' academic learning and addresses an issue critical to the Northern Rockies ecosystem: Fire.

The most specific technique we used to make this new work relevant was to draw from the Montana science curriculum. The piece teaches about the fire triangle (fuel, heat and oxygen) and how fire burns (convection, conduction and radiation). In addition the piece addresses Indian Education for All as it narrates and performs the role fire played in traditional Native Americans' lives.

Montanans experience smoky air during the summer, as fires burn near our communities. "Fire Speaks" gives a basis for understanding the complex role fire plays in our lives. This constitutes the most specific technique we've found to create greater connections with our audience.

The audience is highly involved; we invite them to participate, both from their seats

and on stage. This creates a direct connection between the performers and the audience, dispels the notion that dancers are on "a pedestal," and enables everyone to experience the art form of dance.

Our audience's reactions to the dances and the themes have been helpful to the choreographer and performers. As one teacher said, "This dance was the best science lesson I have ever seen!"

The Plains School superintendent con-



CoMotion Dance: A performance of "Fire Speaks the Land." (Photo by William Munoz)

gratulated us and said his son talked about it all weekend. Direct involvement with our audience is deeply meaningful to the performer and the viewer. It's an approach we plan to continue.

Return on Investment:

Economic Vitality

Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings: In addition to the economic impact of being one of Montana's largest cultural organizations and the flagship contemporary art museum, our elected officials, business leaders, and private citizens communicate the value they place on our institution by bringing those they wish to impress to the museum. The Yellowstone County Commissioners are particularly active in ensuring that visiting dignitaries visit the YAM.

As Billings experiences a ripple-effect from the Bakken oil boom, cultural facilities like the YAM embody a quality of life that cannot be met in a boom town; families live here while wage-earners commute to the oil field. Families need the schools and cultural array that Billings uniquely offers in our state.

Other stories of economic influence include our exhibition of experimental architectural drawings emphasizing sustainable building strategies, which were used by a local developer to improve housing designs in his developments (Oakland Companies).

Billings Clinic includes the YAM in its professional recruitment efforts, and succeeds in hiring top professionals who contribute to the medical facility's own high national rating.

The YAM's leading role improves the state's reputation among our national peers; our publicly accessible Visible

Vault has been noted as the single finest open-storage space ever seen by peers and international travelers.



Yellowstone Art Museum: Artist Michael Zansk begins a multi-media evening with a gallery talk about his installation, "Insomnia."

Percent-for-Art Project Photographs installed at Montana State Prison

By Kim Baraby Hurtle
MAC Percent-for-Art Director

A caravan of installer Tom Foolery, Montana Arts Council staff Kim Hurtle and Czelsi Kozak and MAC board member Arlene Parisot delivered 16 photo enlargements mounted on aluminum panels to the Montana State Prison in Deer Lodge. We had a great day there, with the prison staff helping us unload and lay out the project in the visitor's room for the staff, inmates and visitors to enjoy.

The 16 images represent "home" in Montana as seen and captured through the eyes of 15 of the state's photographers. The selection committee for this project chose photographers from all walks of life and levels of professionalism. It was a difficult job, they said, because "so much talent is percolating in this state."

Installer Tom Foolery is a Dillon artist who specializes in assemblage art; he has a long career as a professional art installer and consultant before moving to Montana to make art full time. He's a selected photographer for the project, and also served as art consultant.

Artists whose works were permanently installed are:

Amanda Breitbart, Havre, "Prairie County Horses"; Bob Christensen, Helena, "Reflections"; Chris McGowan, Helena, "Morning Light on Square Butte"; Dee Linnell Blank, Whitefish, "Little Belt Mountains"; Jay Cross, Polson, "5(0,000) Snow Geese, Freezeout Lake"; Melanie Handl, Livingston, "Big Horn Sheep"; Misti Gaub, Billings, "Country Memory"; Scott Wheeler, Butte, "Mountain Blue Bird"; Steven Akre, Victor, "Makoshika"; Steve Pickel, Polson, "Mission Mountain Farm"; Steven Begleiter, Missoula, "Passing Storm"; Tanner Johnson, Bozeman, "Montana Milky Way"; Thomas Curry, Anaconda, "Pintler Wilderness and My America"; Todd Klassy, Havre, "Braving the Rain"; and Tom Foolery, Dillon, "Big Hole River."



Above: Installation includes "Mission Mountain Farm" by Steven Pickel, "Mountain Blue Bird" by Scott Wheeler and "Big Hole River" by Tom Foolery. At right: Installer Tom Foolery and Montana Arts Council board member Arlene Parisot hang "Mountain Blue Bird." (Photos by Czelsi Kozak ©2014)

